AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a diabetic subject of Chinese descent ~~suffering from,~~ at risk for developing~~, or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, ~~the method~~ comprising the step of[[:]] determining whether a sample from the subject has ~~at least one~~ polymorphic ~~sequence~~ sequences ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ comprising an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, ~~an M235T genotype of an AGT gene,~~ a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, and an a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region, ~~a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene, and~~ or a complement thereof,

wherein the presence of the polymorphic sequence indicates that the subject is ~~suffering from, or~~ at risk for ~~suffering from~~ developing the nephropathy~~, provided that the ALR2 gene cannot be used alone for the determination~~.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is blood.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of amplifying ~~a gene selected from the group consisting of~~ the ACE~~, AGT,~~ and ALR2 genes ~~and TNF-α~~.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the amplifying step is performed with primers having SEQ ID NO. 1 and SEQ ID NO. 2 for the I/D genotype of the ACE gene[[;]], ~~SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for the AGT gene; SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for the TNF-α gene; and~~ SEQ ID NO. 7 and SEQ ID NO. 8 for a (z-2) genotype of the ALR2 gene, or SEQ ID NO. 9 and SEQ ID NO. 10 for a C106T genotype of the ALR2 gene in the promoter region.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the subject is ~~suffering from,~~ at risk for developing~~, or suspected of suffering from~~ Type 2 diabetes.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[3]] 19, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

9. (Currently amended) An array for detecting a ~~subject of~~ Chinese ~~descent suffering from,~~ diabetic subject at risk for developing~~, or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, comprising ~~at least one polymorphic sequence selected from the group consisting of:~~ an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, ~~an M235T genotype of an AGT gene,~~ a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, ~~an~~ and a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region, ~~a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene, and~~ or a complement thereof.

10. (Currently amended) The array of claim 9, wherein the ~~nephropathy is~~ subject is at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

11. (Previously presented) The array claim 10, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

12. (Currently amended) The array of claim ~~10~~ 20, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

13. (Currently amended) A kit for detecting a ~~subject of~~ Chinese diabetic subject ~~suffering from,~~ at risk for developing~~, or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, comprising:

an array comprising ~~at least one polymorphic sequence selected from the group consisting of:~~ an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, ~~an M235T genotype of an AGT gene,~~ a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, and a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region~~, a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene, and~~ or a complement thereof; and

~~an~~ instructional material teaching how to determine whether the subject is ~~suffering from, or~~ at risk for developing the nephropathy.

14. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 13, wherein the ~~nephropathy is~~ subject is at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

15. (Previously presented) The kit of any of claim 13, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

16. (Currently amended) The kit of any of claim ~~13~~ 21, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

17. (Currently amended) A kit for detecting a ~~subject of~~ Chinese diabetic subject ~~suffering from,~~ at risk for developing~~, or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy comprising:

primers for amplifying the ~~gene~~ ACE~~, AGT,~~ and ALR2 genes ~~or TNF-α~~; and

~~an~~ instructional material teaching how to determine whether the subject is ~~suffering from, or~~ at risk for developing the nephropathy

18. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 17, wherein the primers ~~are~~ comprise SEQ ID NO. 1 and SEQ ID NO. 2 for an I/D genotype of the ACE gene[[;]], ~~SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for the AGT gene; SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for the TNF-α gene;~~ SEQ ID NO. 7 and SEQ ID NO. 8 for a (z-2) genotype of the ALR2 gene, or SEQ ID NO. 9 and SEQ ID NO. 10 for a C106T genotype of the ALR2 gene in the promoter region.

19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene.

20. (New) The array of claim 9, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene.

21. (New) The kit of claim 13, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene.

22. (New) The kit of claim 17, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF-α gene.

23. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the primers used for amplifying further comprise SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for an M235T genotype of the AGT gene; or SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for a G-308A genotype of the TNF-α gene.

24. (New) The kit of claim 22, wherein the primers used for amplifying further comprise SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for an M235T genotype of the AGT gene; or SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for a G-308A genotype of the TNF-α gene.